Rationalisation of Imports

848. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working out a new strategy for boosting the country's exports in the light of the new export-import policy which seeks to further rationalise imports;

(b) whether any discussion was held on the 20th April, 1988 with the Export Promotion Councils, Chambers of Commerce and Commodity Boards to chalk out export promotion measures; and

(c) if so what were the other suggestions discussed at the meeting and what steps have been taken to boost exports in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The export strategy is constantly reviewed and modified as appropriate keeping in view domestic and international factors. The provisions of the new Import-Export Policy for 1988—91 are in line with the export strategy.

(b) and (c) At the meeting held on 21st April, 1988 with Export Promotion Councils, Chambers of Commerce and Commodity Boards etc. discussions were held mainly for preparation of unit level export action plans by exporters for increasing exports. A series of meetings is being held with individual units to follow up on the action plans submitted by them.

Aerial Seeding of Forest Areas in Orissa

849. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps the Central Government have taken for the aerial seeding of forest areas in Orissa;

(b) whether any such aerial seeding has been done so far; and

(c) whether the Central Government have any programme for aerial seeding of forest areas in Orissa at regular intervals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The State Government had carried out aerial seeding on an experimental basis in 1985-86 and 1986-87. As the results were not found encouraging, it has not been continued since.

Inflation in Metropolitan Cities

850. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the four metropolitan cities in India have not only posted double digit inflation during the twelve month ending April, 1988 but also registered higher rate than the All India Average of 10.4 per cent of the period,

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor: and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The All India index is based on average of 50 centres, and while